

RESPONSE

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect Species Group 7, claims 115-123, with traverse. Applicants respectfully submit that it at least Species Group 5 (claims 107-112) has unity of invention with Species Group 7 (claims 115-123). It is respectfully submitted that there is a technical relationship among the inventions of Groups 7 and 5 involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features. Specifically, both Groups 7 and 5 involve the special technical features of passing an expandable device, while in a contracted configuration, through an opening to the abdominal cavity, anchoring at least a portion of the device to a structure in the abdominal cavity, and expanding the expandable device.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner examine at least the claims of Groups 7 and Group 5, comprising claims 107-112 and 115-123.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that a proper response has been made to the Restriction Requirement, and that all of the claims in this application are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2653, order number EXPL-004.

Respectfully submitted,
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